

## **Recommended Actions For Katrina Evacuees Spontaneously Arriving in Washington State Who Have No Where to Go**

1. Contact the local American Red Cross office to get help with immediate needs. If you cannot find the local number call 1.800.helpnow (1.800.435.7669)
2. Contact the local Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) Community Service Office (CSO) for food stamps and Medicaid. Number should be in the phone book.
3. Contact your insurance company if applicable. If you are having problems with insurance (health, property, life, anything) call the Washington State Insurance Commissioners Office at 360.725.7080 or 1.800.562.6900.
4. Register with FEMA – 1.800.621.3362 or on-line at [www.emd.wa.gov](http://www.emd.wa.gov)  
If Registered make sure that FEMA has your current mailing address or assistance awards may be mailed to the damaged address.
5. Contact the Community Action Partnership if you need help in relocating to Washington State permanently.
6. Call the Washington State Disaster Assistance Help Line if you need help in understanding federal disaster assistance programs or need advice on same. 1.800.688.3469.
7. Contact your home state unemployment assistance office to file claims for regular unemployment or Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA). Those not eligible for regular unemployment assistance may be eligible for DUA (for example business owners).  
  
Louisiana – 1.866.783.5567 or 1.800.818.7811  
Mississippi – 1.888.844.3577  
Alabama – 1.800.866.234.5382
8. Check with Social Security, if applicable, to make appropriate address changes so checks go to their new mailing address. 1.800.772.1213.
9. Check to see if persons are veterans. The Washington State Department of Veterans Affairs (WDVA) may be able to assist them. 360.725-2155, [alfie@dva.wa.gov](mailto:alfie@dva.wa.gov)  
Veterans with service connected disabilities should contact the Disabled American Veterans who can assist with a voucher up to \$1,000 if eligible. 1.206.220.6225
10. Contact military family members who may be overseas or who may be concerned about your safety to let them know you are okay. If uncertain how to do this contact the closest military installation Family Support Center.

11. For those who are having a difficult time dealing with the emotional stresses created by the trauma of Katrina should contact Mental Health Regional Support Network nearest where they are residing.
12. Contact the local Salvation Army for clothes and other needed items.
13. Military Families – contact the nearest military installation for assistance through the Family Support Centers.
14. Contact the local Department of Licensing office to get a new drivers license or identification card if needed. If you had a driver's license in Mississippi or Alabama Washington State Dept. of Licensing will contact the applicable state and arrange to validate that you had a license/ID in that state. Washington State will reissue your drivers license/ID upon verification. If you do not currently have a drivers license/ID in one of those states you will be asked to prove who you are beforehand. Contact the vital statistics office in your home state to obtain a copy of your birth certificate:

Louisiana – 504.568.5152  
Mississippi – 601.576.7960  
Alabama - 205.930.1117  
Florida – 866.778.7356

15. For employment opportunities contact the Employment Security Office or job center in the community nearest you. The Good Will job center may also be able to help with jobs in the Tacoma (253.284.3318) and Seattle (206.860.5767) areas.
16. British Citizens should contact the British Consulate at 206.336.4179 or San Francisco at 415.617.1300 for help. People from other countries should contact the appropriate U.S. Consulate.
17. Banking – If your bank was affected by the disaster it does not necessarily mean you cannot get your money. If you are having banking problems call the information number in the city where the bank is located and ask for the number of the main office for that bank. Call that number and ask for the current status of your account. If funds are available, take the name of the person you spoke along with and the telephone number you called to a local bank of your choice. Contact the manager, tell them you have evacuated from ... and ask them to help process the transfer of your account.

Credit Union National Credit Union # 1.800.827.6282 x4049. Call the 1.800 number and ask for current status of your account. If funds are available, take the name of the person you spoke with and the telephone number you called to a local credit union. Contact the manager and ask them to help process the transfer of your account. Or go to a local credit union and ask for help with this process.